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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 13

August 1, 1940

U. S. RATIFICATION OF HAVANA PACTS to be sought without delay, to encourage similar action by other American nations.

EIGHT REPUBLICS MAKE RESERVATIONS in signing Havana pacts. Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Uruguay and Venezuela specify that ratification is necessary to make agreements effective. Bolivia, Mexico and Peru make reservations on minor points.

BERLIN DERIDES FIFTH COLUMN ACTION at Havana, saying that Great Britain, not Germany, is engaged in subversive activities in Americas.

AMERICAS EXEMPT FROM GASOLINE EMBARGO. Aviation gasoline cannot go to non-American countries under President's embargo order, but Canada and Latin America are excepted.

EUROPEAN WARSHIPS IN NEUTRALITY ZONE. British vessels pursue German merchant raider in brief battle. U. S. withholds comment.

\$500,000,000 BILL REDRAFTED by Senate Banking and Currency Committee, to confine loan powers to ~~Export~~-Import Bank. Designed to facilitate credits to Latin America, measure will probably reach vote today.

TWO-WAY TRADE DISCUSSED at National Foreign Trade Convention. Under-Secretary Grady holds it protects our agriculture and industry; General Motors' E. W. Smith warns against "unproved economic processes in world trade," referring to cartelization.

CHILEANS SEEKING U. S. LOANS. Oscar Schnake, head of Chile's Havana delegation, proceeds here with nitrate executive and foreign exchange official, to request larger Export-Import Bank credit.

MEXICAN HAVEN FOR AUSTRIAN NOBLES asked by Archduke Otto. Citing stringent U. S. immigration laws, he requests sanctuary for 9 fellow-exiles, now in southern France, to avoid their falling into Nazi hands.

MEXICO SETTLES OIL DISPUTE tentatively. Three thousand workers to lose posts; three thousand making more than \$140 monthly to get reduction; filling of new vacancies suspended. Petroleum Workers Union must ratify before agreement ~~is~~ final.

PUERTO RICO SEEKS SUGAR ADJUSTMENT. Federal research to reduce Cuba's dependence on sugar is urged by Puerto Rican Trade Council. Puerto Rico suffers, among other U. S. areas; and question is bone of contention in Congress. Bill to renew 1937 Sugar Act is put before Senate Finance Committee.

INFLUENZA IN PUERTO RICO. 100,000 cases of "Monga" reported, as National Guard is quarantined for duration of 3-week encampment.

PUERTO RICO LEADING IN FARM IMPORTS, says Puerto Rican Trade Council. With \$30,000,000 volume, Island leads Latin American markets. Total imports from U. S. gain 33 percent in year.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 14

August 2, 1940

\$500,000,000 HEMISPHERE LOAN GETS 8-6 VOTE in Senate Banking and Currency Committee. Yeas: Barklêy, Bankhead, Maloney, Radcliffe, Smathers, Miller, Clark (Idaho), Wagner, Nays: Adams, Taft, Townsend, Tobey, Donaher, Frazier.

BERLIN QUESTIONS U. S. MOTIVES IN LATIN AMERICA. German papers publish excerpts from South American papers observing that Uncle Sam's gold will be used to take advantage of sister republics.

SOVIET PREMIER SCORES U. S. HEMISPHERE PLANS as indicative of "imperialistic appetites."

BRITISH SHIP OUT OF NEUTRAL ZONE, claims Chief Officer Gordon. Alcántara, 22,209 ton armed merchant cruiser, not within bounds set by American reports, says officer's statement.

FRENCH COMMITTEE IN ARGENTINA, formed to support Gen. de Gaulle.

BOLIVIA HONORS U. S. DENTISTS with medals presented in Washington by Bolivian Minister.

BRAZIL PROMOTES RUBBER PRODUCTION by planning settlement of thousands of families in Amazon area on small farms, not plantations. Money, seedlings and export subsidies are to aid settlers. In cooperation with U. S. agricultural specialists, leaf disease will be combatted.

CHILEAN RIGHTIST LEADERS CONGREGATE in neighboring Argentina as internal dissension dogs Government coalition (Popular Front). Spanish attacks on present rulers as "anarchical" believed to be timed with Rightist plans for taking over. Some observers believe Spain is acting for Axis and that this is only opening gun in Continent-wide campaign.

MEXICAN POLITICS STILL TROUBLE the country, as leaders keep election outcome to fore. Both parties to file complaints accusing rivals of irregularities.

41 PRO-BRITISH PANAMANIAN LEADERS, heading by former President Harmodio Arias, offer "full cooperation" to British Minister. Many were educated in England.

81 FOREIGN AGENTS IN PANAMA are rounded up by Canal Zone authorities. Panamanian Government classes most of them as "refugees."

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 15

August 3, 1940

NO OBSTACLES TO HAVANA PACTS seen probable in Senate Foreign Relations Committee. While some doubt danger of German invasion of U. S., appreciation of peril to South America seems general.

HAVANA ACT IMPLEMENTS MONROE DOCTRINE, states Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director General of Pan American Union, on returning to U. S.

250 U. S. MERCHANTS TO SOUTH AMERICA by motorcade, is plan of New York attorney. Will use Pan American Highway 80 percent of trip. Purpose: To develop friendships and offset 5th column effects.

LATINS TO AID CHILD WAR SUFFERERS, announces Charles V. Vickery, president of Golden Rule Foundation, returning from Havana. Committees are being formed in each country to handle contributions.

RIVAL FRENCH APPEAL TO COLONIES for adherence. Charles Corbin, representing London group; and Camille Chautemps, for Vichy government, claim allegiance of French NewWorld colonies.

FRENCH DEFEAT HELPS ARGENTINE-BRITISH TRADE by freeing English coal for exchange with Argentine products. Meat exports benefit considerably.

BRAZILIAN MISSIONS TO U. S. Two groups: One interested in \$17,000,000 Brazilian steel plan; the other, to confer on Brazil-U. S. commercial, economic, industrial relations.

BRAZILIAN BOARD TO JUDGE ALCANTARA case. British 22,209-ton vessel, damaged by German raider off Brazilian coast, may be permitted to remain for damage repairs.

CHILE BUYING U. S. PLANES with 7,000,000 peso grant. Ultimate plan is to spend 1,000,000 pesos for rearmament. (Peso equals .0516 U. S. dollars, Aug. 2, 1940.)

MEXICO SPONSORS FISHING INDUSTRY MEETING, to last from August 5 to 10. Mexico-U. S. fishing operations and problems constitute agenda.

81 "FOREIGN AGENTS" AT PANAMA not fifth-columnists, as described earlier; simply refugees awaiting deportation. Error due to wrong transmission of message to War Department, says report.

PUERTO RICO CROP DIVERSIFICATION to help defense. Garden project is planned to lessen need for food imports during crisis.

VENEZUELA SELECTS U. S. PROFESSOR under 1936 Buenos Aires Convention. Dr. Charles C. Griffin of Vassar is chosen for coming academic year.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 16

August 5, 1940

DISAGREED ONLY ON METHODS, not fundamentals, says Dr. Leopoldo Melo, Argentine delegation chief at Havana Conference, upon arrival in U. S.

LEOPOLDO MELO TO VISIT ROOSEVELT at Hyde Park. Chief Argentine delegate at Havana will not negotiate economic agreements but will discuss sanitary pact. (Passage of this convention would permit entry of frozen meat from zones free of hoof and mouth disease.)

U. S. EXPORTERS AID NAZI INFILTRATION, says cable from Brazil. Germans have taken over many U. S. representations during war. Germans also buy U. S. goods, pay cash in dollars but sell in milreis on long terms, thus preparing way for post-war trade in German goods.

HULL ENTERTAINS FOR SALOMONI, Paraguayan delogate at Havana.

FOLLOW UP HAVANA by creating a "Pan American state of mind," urges Rabbi Israel Goldstein of New York. "A comprehensive effort, ... beyond realms of military and economic cooperation" is his plan.

BRAZIL DECORATES JAPANESE cabinet officer. Shozo Murata, Minister of Communications, receives highest order for work in promoting Brazilian-Japanese trade relations.

GERMANS TRANSLATE CHILEAN AGRICULTURAL WORK. President Aguirre's book, "The Agrarian Problem", is translated into German and widely distributed in Berlin by Spanish American-German Institute. This causes favorable impression in Chile. The Institute actively promotes knowledge of South American cultural and scientific progress in Europe.

CHILEAN RATIFICATION OF HAVANA PACTS without delay is predicted by Senator Rodolfo Michels, delegation member.

CHILEAN PAPER DERIDES MOLOTOFF statement as "bluff." La Nación says many have been mislead by Soviets' expressions against imperialism.

PLANES OVER CHILE lake region reported. Two foreign machines of unknown nationality make appearance. Submarine is sighted in Straits of Magellan.

COSTA RICAN ARMY STUDIED by Col. Serafín M. Montesinos of Panama Canal military. While proud of fact that there are more teachers than soldiers in Costa Rica, government circles realize need for well-trained army in present situation.

CUBAN WORKERS DIVIDED ON U. S. imperialism, says Juan Arévalo, Workers' Confederation secretary. Attacks in newspaper "Hoy" represented only Communist sentiment, he avers. Labor looks to continental cooperation to combat Nazi-Facism, is belief.

(over)

NEW PARAGUAYAN CONSTITUTION put before voters in plebiscite provides state regulation for production, protection of workmen, and assignment of government lands to farmers.

PARAGUAY DECREES TOBACCO STUDY at National School of Agriculture. Ministry of Agriculture hopes to improve cultivation methods and preparation for commercial use. (Tobacco accounted for 25 percent of Paraguayan exports in fiscal year 1937-38.)

PERU NOT EASY FOR AXIS propaganda, reports Russell B. Porter. Lufthansa (German airline) has been refused extension from Lima to northern Peru; Anti-Japanese feeling is also evident. Strong Nazi propaganda bureau uses all possible channels, however, to promote anti-U.S. sentiment. Germans boast new type dismantled radio stations to be set up upon Reich victory to flood South America with unprecedented propaganda.

NOT 100,000 PUERTO RICO "FLU" CASES, says Puerto Rican Trade Council, as previously claimed. Quotes Governor Leahy as reporting less than 90,000 cases.

PUERTO RICO INDUSTRY BOARD APPOINTED by Col. Fleming, Wages and Hours Administrator. Headed by Msgr. F. J. Haas, new board is to fix minimum wages in needlework industry first.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 17

August 6, 1940

FASTER SHIPS TO EASTERN S. A. needed, says Commander Robert C. Lee, Vice President of Moore-McCormack Lines, returning to U. S. Germans now taking orders with 20 percent penalty for non-delivery in 90 days.

TOURISTS FROM U. S. TO LATIN AMERICA could spend \$250,000,000 annually, says Arthur Krock. With holiday seasons rearranged and hotel facilities improved, U. S. travel could help Latin America obtain funds to buy more in this country.

BRAZILIAN ART IN NEW YORK. Riverside Museum shows work of João Batista Pontinari, painter, and Maria Martins, sculptor and wife of Brazilian Ambassador. (This is part of Latin American Exhibition sponsored by U. S. World's Fair Commission of which Secretary Wallace is Chairman.)

GRAF SPEE SEAMEN COSTLY to Argentina. Expenses so far amount to \$125,000, with no word from Germany about repayment. Besides, some crew members continually try escaping.

BRAZILIAN AGRICULTURAL PROMOTION to be undertaken. Vargas starts on trip to western Brazil. Agricultural machinery to be shipped to new districts and technicians to teach western farmers, after survey.

ALCANTARA LEAVES RIO, after undergoing repairs, to seek German raider which damaged her on July 29 in running fight.

PERU NEEDS ANTI-NAZI HELP, reports Russell B. Porter. Loss of British markets, though partly offset by sales to Argentina, makes Peru vulnerable to Nazi advances, unless aided by U. S. Experts estimate guarantee of export sales would cost \$4,000,000 for cotton and \$3,000,000 for sugar annually. Nazis tell Peruvians U. S. wants to take their independence away. Meanwhile, U. S. does nothing to counteract propaganda. While it is well to think how evil propaganda is, says Porter, there is such a thing as being "too pure to exist."

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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WASHINGTON, D. C.

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 18

August 7, 1940

ROOSEVELT ENTERTAINS HAVANA CONFEREES at Hyde Park luncheon: Drs. Leopoldo Melo, Argentina; Oscar Schnake, Chile; Tomás A. Salomoni, Paraguay; and Pedro Manini Ríos, Uruguay.

LATIN AMERICAN BONDS TOP slow market. Argentine, Peruvian and Uruguayan issues prove favorites. Efforts at hemisphere unity are credited with rise.

HULL TELEGRAPHS LOAN MESSAGE to House, urging passage of \$500,000,000 expansion for Export-Import Bank. This is not beginning of cartel, he says. Bank can only lend, though commodities may serve as collateral.

WELLES ENTERTAINS BRAZILIAN delegation to Havana Conference. Besides Brazilian Ambassador and conference delegates, guests are Henry A. Wallace, Key Pittman, Sol Bloom, Jesse Jones, Drew Pearson, U. S. Representatives Charles A. Eaton (New Jersey) and James A. Shanley (Connecticut).

\$20,000,000 FOR BRAZILIAN STEEL INDUSTRY sought by special mission, headed by Dr. Guilherme Guinle. Would quadruple present 100,000 tons annual output.

CANADA SEEKS S. A. TRADE by sending trade commissioners formerly stationed in Europe. May open legation in Buenos Aires or Rio. Premier King says Canada will not consider joining Pan American Union until after war.

67 CHILEANS BUY U. S. FARM MACHINERY, involving \$700,000, advanced by Export-Import Bank. Total program entails \$1,200,000.

COSTA RICA MAY JOIN BANK. President recommends Congress authorize Inter-American Bank affiliation.

U. S. GUNBOAT TO ECUADOR. Flagship Erie, Rear Admiral H. K. Hewitt commanding, to spend several weeks in Ecuadoran waters. No word available about plans to include strategic Galápagos Islands.

WON'T DEAL WITH RUFFLIANS, SAYS MEXICAN oil head, resigning. Prof. Jesús Silva Herzog has been butt of bitter attacks by workers for deals allegedly contributing to operating loss and curtailed wages.

THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF

CHARLES THE FIRST

BY

JOHN BURNET

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

IN TWO VOLUMES

LONDON

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 19

August 8, 1940

SUB-ROSA LOAN PLANS CHARGED by Representative Crawford of Michigan, at House Banking Committee hearing on \$500,000,000 loan proposal. Milo Perkins, president of Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, said to have offered loans to Latins at Havana for anti-Axis solidarity, states he only discussed agricultural surpluses. Seven of the twenty committee members sign minority report opposing loan as "futile, wasteful and unwise." The majority report hails the measure as bulwark against totalitarian infiltration in Latin America.

AXIS MENACE IS FALSE ALARM, according to Virginio Gayda, Fascist editor. Germany and Italy not interested in Americas; Hull simply attempting to create atmosphere favorable to U.S. imperialism, says Giornale d'Italia.

RETAILERS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE to Inter-American Development Commission is named. Representing 841 department stores, committee will make needs of U.S. retail outlets known and will interest purchasers here in Latin American goods.

SPANISH SHIP DROPS MAIL for Europe in order to pass recently extended British blockade. S.S. Ciudad de Sevilla, on way home from Argentina and Uruguay, stops at Rio to leave Europe-bound letters.

NEW BATTLE OFF SOUTH AMERICA, as British auxiliary cruiser Alcantara meets German raider. (Alcantara left Rio Monday after four days' stop for repairs.)

ARGENTINA DOUBLES U.S. IMPORTS for first half of 1940 as against same period last year. Other South American countries also showed substantial increases.

NO ARGENTINE FIFTH COLUMN, says Dr. Melo in New York interview. Only "isolated cases" of subversive activities have appeared. Argentina wishes to preserve Western Hemisphere peace and solidarity, Dr. Melo assures newspapermen.

CHILEAN REARMING PROGRESSES, as Chamber of Deputies committee meets regularly with experts. Special sales and increased taxes are discussed to help raise 1,000,000,000 peso defense fund.

CHILEAN NITRATE COMPANIES DISAGREE. Sociedad Nacional de Salitre charges Nitrate and Iodine Sales Corp. is under "secret, corruptive influence of foreign capitalism" and asks for better planning in use of Chilean deposits. Sales Corp., in reply, points to steadily mounting sales of Chilean nitrates abroad, despite synthetic products and unstable world conditions.

NAZI AIRMEN LEAVE COLOMBIA on steamer Yasukuni Maru, for Yokohama and home. Twenty pilots and technicians depart with families. (Last June, 80 Nazis were discharged when Colombian Avianca Company took over former Scadta, German line.)

FOREIGN SCHOOLS IN ECUADOR. Spanish education mission coming in September, sent by Franco, expected to augment totalitarian teachings already under way in local German and Italian schools. First North American school to be started with private subscribers headed by War Minister Galo Plaza.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS

U. S. Department of Agriculture
LATIN AMERICAN

NEWS DIGEST

No. 20

August 9, 1940

RADIO BATTLE IN LATIN AMERICA foreseen as near. U. S. radio interests reveal plans to spend \$2,000,000 for improving facilities to Latin America. Great Britain, Germany and Italy are scheduled to increase Latin broadcasts as circumstances permit.

FURTHER HAVANA IDEALS, LA GUARDIA BIDS Conference Delegates from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Paraguay and Uruguay, at World's Fair luncheon.

"THE AMERICAS TODAY," good-will radio program sponsored by Foreign trade magazine editors, and short-waved by CBS, begins at World Fair's Inter-America house with speech by Frederick E. Hasler, Pan American Society President and greetings by Dr. L. S. Rowe, Pan American Union Director General.

ARGENTINE PARTY SPLITS ON NAZIS. Dominant Radical Civic Union runs danger of losing power to Conservatives over struggle between pro-ally and pro-neutrality factions.

COFFEE PLASTICS to be produced in São Paulo, Brazil. U. S. invention, "cafelite" will require 5,000,000 pounds of coffee annually. (530,000,000 pounds are destroyed each year, but other factories are expected.)

BRAZILIANS IMPRESSED by Stokowski orchestra. Press praises youthful musicians.

CHILEAN AGRONOMICAL SOCIETY, leading farm organization, is seeking legal restrictions on land sales to foreigners and foreign-controlled firms.

CHILEAN NACIONALISTAS INTENSIFY work, enrolling members and increasing activities. (This movement is linked with Popular Socialist Vanguard--former Nazi party, authorities declare.)

CHILE BARS SUBMARINES from ports and territorial waters, as menace to security and neutrality.

AIRLINE OFFICIALS RETURN FROM COLOMBIA after seven months reorganizing former German Scadta Line. (Now known as Avianca, with Pan American airways financial and technical aid, the line has U.S. equipment and personnel in place of German.)

CUBA INCREASES SUGAR shipments to U.S. First six months of 1940 show 957,666 Spanish long tons vs. 860,083 last year, same period. Stocks in Cuba, June 30, 1940; 2,013,667 Spanish long tons; June 30, 1939, 2,086,402.

MEXICAN OIL ACCORD PUBLISHED, clearing way for Cárdenas' reorganization plan (dismissals of certain employees and salary reductions) but leaving major issues (workers' deposits, rent payments, vacations) to special commissions.

MEXICO BANS FURTHER AGITATION by forbidding meetings or propaganda in connection with July's elections. "Electoral problem is concluded" says Federal District Government. (Fraud has been alleged by oppositionists and speculation is rife as to their action.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 21

August 10, 1940

CARTEL PLAN DISCARDED in favor of substitute, using authority under \$500,000,000 lending program, to aid Latin American industry. Present plan hopes to (1) finance U. S. exports; (2) free Latin America from present degree of dependence on foreign products; (3) facilitate mutual buying; and (4) enable Latin America to hold surpluses until able to sell without European political pressure.

INTER-AMERICAN RADIO LANE discovered by Dr. A. T. Cosentino of Argentine Interior Ministry and Dr. J. H. Dellinger of U. S. Bureau of Standards. During U. S. winter, north-south signals are 25 times greater and 15 times less variable than U.S.-European signals. Ionosphere electric storms are responsible, say scientists.

SEARCH FOR NAZI RAIDER OFF S. A. continues. British pursue investigation hoping to locate merchant raider, though inclined to believe that story of S. S. Ancantara's second encounter is just rumor.

GERMAN WANTED IN ARGENTINA for "activities against the peace and sovereignty" of that country. Carlos Arnold, apparently employed by German "culture circle", is accused by police of entering public gatherings and creating disturbances, in one case preventing showing of Jewish film.

BALANCED CHILEAN BUDGET of 2,000,000,000 pesos, representing drastic economies, is in preparation.

NAVY TO STRENGTHEN GUANTANAMO garrison, by moving 2,900 officers and men from Quantico. (Guantánamo is important base for guarding eastern approaches to Panama Canal.)

GERMANS RUN LOSING AIRLINE IN ECUADOR, hoping to connect with German-controlled lines elsewhere, for military purposes. Sedta line keeps 20 pilots for two planes. (Recently, Ecuadorean Government refused to permit extension to strategic Galápagos Islands, although prominent Ecuadoreans are among stockholders and Sedta gives free service to local officials and journalists.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 22

August 12, 1940

OUR MOVE NOW, says John W. White in "New York Times" article. South American leaders await U. S. contributions "more substantial than good-will." They would welcome economic union of the Americas and heavier purchases of South American products. Otherwise, Nazi economic penetration, prelude to political and military domination, is feared. One South American country has already received delivery on Germany artillery as promised, despite war. Plane deliveries are also offered.

PAN AMERICAN AIRWAY TRAINS CADETS at Miami, for U. S. Army, in long-range navigation. Eight hundred and fifty to take 14-month course; but first group of 50 to complete training in 12 months. Candidates must be 20 to 27 years old.

MOSCOW PREDICTS U.S. SEIZURE OF COLONIES in New World. Havana Conference prepared war, says "Red Star," military organ.

ARGENTINE-U.S. TRADE PARLEYS suggested by Buenos Aires. No attempt to revive last year's trade talks in view--simply effort to promote greater exchange.

ARGENTINA ARRESTS NAZIS, expelling one Gestapo Agent (Karl Arnold) and uncovering 50 machine guns, 3500 rifles, several thousand rounds of ammunition. Thirteen former Graf Spee warrant officers are returned to Buenos Aires after attempting escape over Chilean boundary. Misiones Territory revealed as center of Nazi activities, linked with similar work in nearby Paraguay.

ARGENTINA ARRESTS GERMAN author of military plan for seizure of Uruguay. Arnulf Fuhrmann is apprehended at Concordia, Entre Rios Province. (Uruguayan Congressional investigation showed him to be more important Nazi than Dalldorf, Fuhrer for Uruguay.) Argentine press demands action against Nazi organizations.

VARGAS SEES JUNGLE RICHES on visit to Brazil's west. Plans to make clearances for agriculture, exploit nickel and join hinterland of Goyaz and Matto Grosso to coast by roads and rails, are advanced.

BRAZIL REPORTS OFFER from "foreign nation" to buy millions of bags of coffee being held for destruction, for use in plastics. If U. S. could buy surplus, exchange would be created for importing U. S. agricultural machinery.

CHILEAN AIR MISSION TO U. S. appointed to study our methods. Plan to extend service to world's southernmost city, Magallanes.

CHILE MOVES AGAINST COMMUNISM as 29 deputies sign petition for special meeting August 12 to discuss anti-Communist bill.

CUBAN CRISIS SEEN by Senator José Manuel Casanova, in appeal to U. S. for vast economic program. Hopes to obtain help in Washington to remedy economic situation of island republic.

(over)

NAZIS IN ECUADOR headed by German Minister, Dr. Eugen Klee, writes Russell B. Porter in "New York Times." They are equipped with Gestapo, Hitler Youth, Labor Front and rest of usual organizations. News from Transocean service (German), is widely used by press and radio. Pamphlets go to government, army, and business heads. Some contributions for this come from German firms representing U.S. goods. Special work is done among illiterates. Gatherings are held in remote country district drilling grounds.

FORMER MEXICAN GOLDSHIRT LEADER DIES, after being permitted by President Cárdenas to return from U. S. to native soil to spend last days. General Nicolás Rodríguez succumbs after several weeks' illness.

SECRET MEXICAN BROADCASTERS, accused of sending "seditious" information from hidden station, arrested. Government declares they are connected with sister of late rebel, General Cedillo. Also arrested at same time: Rubén Moreno Padres, head of anti-Cárdenas Gold Shirts. Showdown on election outcome is approaching. Sixt- thousand pro-Camacho workers are being brought in to guard Congress opening September 1.

MEXICAN PARTIES CANNOT AGREE on compromise president. Congress, however, opposes any compromise candidate, maintaining its constitutional prerogative to declare who is elected.

U. S. PHOTOGRAPHER IN MEXICO freed by Interior Ministry after two hours' questioning. Malcolm Bissell of Los Angeles loses film, however, at German school where he took pictures of parading children giving Nazi salute.

MEXICAN PAPERS ATTACK U. S., reports Betty Kirk, in "Washington Post." "La Voz de México," Communist daily, prominently displays "Pravda" attack on Havana Conference. "España Popular," Spanish leftist paper, chimes in, as do "Catalunya," organ of Catalonians in Mexico, and "Futuro," published monthly by Workers' University. "Exposición," Nazi sheet, attacks U. S. conscription plan. "Ser," sold near churches on Sunday, represents Franco Spanish viewpoint, fights for spiritual unity of Spanish-speaking nations, attacks democracies, extols totalitarian prowess. "La Semana," (Weekly), plays up German renunciation of New World ambitions. "El Sinarquista" appeals to Catholics to offer "blind obedience to leader." "Boletín de Unidad" is pro-Franco. "Todo" (weekly) warns that Empress Zita is about to place Otto on Mexican "throne", left vacant by Maximilian, aided by Great Britain and "International Jewish Bankers." Goebbels's "Frankfurter Zeitung" is sent directly from Berlin printed on Special lightweight paper.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
For Administrative Use

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 23

August 13, 1940

LATIN AMERICAN PROPAGANDA POST DECLINED by Roy Howard some time ago.

Publisher is revealed as the one non-cooperative man mentioned in President's acceptance speech. President had asked Howard to head efforts to counteract non-American propaganda in Latin America.

NAZI PREPARATIONS TO ATTACK S. A. with bombing planes and parachutists are described by Senator Austin in radio address. Germans already have air bases, gasoline supplies, interchangeable parts and planes, glider clubs, cycling clubs in strategic areas.

SOUTH AMERICANS WITNESS WAR GAMES of First Army near Ogdensburg, New York. From Chile: St. Comdr. F. Aguayo, Capt. R. Sáenz, Liet. F. Bascunán; from Peru, Lieut. Col. Jorge Sarimiento.

BOMBERS OFF ON GOOD-WILL TRIP. Two U. S. B-18 bombers leave on trip circling Caribbean. La Guaira, Venezuela, is first stop.

28 EUROPEAN SHIPS IN ARGENTINE PORTS, held by war. Combined tonnage: 157,269. Nationalities: Danish, 4; French, 4; German, 3; Italian, 16; Swedish, 1. They are at 5 ports: Buenos Aires, Bahía Blanca, San Nicolás, Necochea and San Lorenzo.

COSTA RICA BARS EUROPEAN IMMIGRANTS without exception and notifies its European consulates accordingly.

MEXICAN ART AT FAIR. American National Committee of Engraving announces exhibition of over 100 prints by 26 contemporary artists of three different "schools." Later, this exhibit will go to various points in the United States.

AVILA CANACHO PARTISANS REJOICE over President Cárdenas' declaration that Congress must decide who won Mexican election, since Congress is largely pro-Avila. Yet supporters of Andreu Almazán, opposition candidate, still hold hopes. Atmosphere is tense. Some leaders wonder what U. S. attitude will be.

MEXICAN OIL WORKERS BALK at President Cárdenas' economy reorganization. To prevent nephew of industry's general manager from taking new post as technical director, they throw picket line around plant.

PUERTO RICO CO-OP FAILS, reports Miles H. Fairbanks, PRRA regional administrator. Unable to meet first payment, 12 land cooperatives formed in past 3 years ask agency to take property. After reassessments, tracts of 10 to 100 acres will be offered, 18 percent down, rest over 20 years, at prices from \$200 to \$600 an acre.



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August 14, 1940

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 24

MOVIE STUDIOS PLAN GOODWILL BROADCASTS to Latin America, to offset Nazi and Fascist propaganda stations. MGM, Warner Bros., RKO, Paramount and Universal to record programs for transmission over NBC's stations WRCA and WNBI.

JONES BACKS \$500,000,000 BILL before House Banking and Currency Committee. In answer to Representative Fred L. Crawford of Michigan, he voices belief that U. S. must convince Latin Americans that we are prepared to compete for their business.

GERMANS STILL CRITICIZE CARTEL plan, although this has already been abandoned. "Dienst aus Deutschland" points out that 77 percent of South American exports in 1937 went to Europe. It accuses U. S. of trying to keep Brazil from producing more cotton.

ARGENTINE BUSINESS STANDS UP, despite European war, says Central Bank. Check clearances, stock exchange transactions, imports and exports are up from last year.

ARGENTINE PAPER SEES U. S. COOLER on Pan Americanism since Havana Conference. "La Nación" prints three-column article based on dispatch from New York, saying U. S. expects to seize Atlantic control, contrary to international law.

CHILE DECORATES GERMAN WOMAN "in recognition of services in increasing cultural relations between Germany and Chile." Tobías Barros, Chilean Ambassador to Berlin, presents Medal of Merit to wife of Major General Faupel, Chairman of Ibero-Amerikanisches-Institut (Ibero-American Institute) of Berlin.

ALMAZAN BROADCASTS TO MEXICO, from Havana, saying he will be sworn in December 1 "according to the almost unanimous wishes of the electorate." (Other candidate, Avila Camacho, also claims victory).

MEXICAN PEASANTS MASSING in capital. Coming from as far away as Vera Cruz, they expect to stand guard Thursday, when Congress meets to ratify its credentials and again on September 1, when it proclaims winner in Presidential election. Peasants are pro-Avila Camacho.

ALMAZAN GOES TO PANAMA from Havana. He may also visit Costa Rica and Guatemala.

MEXICAN SENATE APPROVES MILITARY TRAINING after three hours debate. To become law, it now needs only President's signature and publication in the Diario Oficial.

URUGUAY CONFIRMS NAZI PLOT. General Julio A. Rolletti, Defense Minister, answering criticisms on rifle purchases, tells of grave dangers from Nazis. Official circles indicate that charges against Germans had to be dropped because U. S. failed to lend \$5,000,000 for armament, despite promises made through diplomatic channels, says John W. White in wireless to "New York Times".

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August 15, 1940

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 25

HOUSE COMMITTEE BACKS \$500,000,000, by 15 to 6 vote to implement insulation of Latin America against German economic inroads, by facilitating loans for guaranteeing orderly disposal of surpluses and for stimulating expansion of natural resources needed here (rubber, tin, etc.). Chief proponent, Jesse Jones, testified that the bill is essential in preparedness program; some Republicans opposed it as war act.

FRENCH DISARM NEW WORLD COLONIAL FORCES, after agreement with British Governor of Trinidad. French aircraft carrier, cruiser and training ship at Guadaloupe to be stripped of armaments.

CHILEAN AGRICULTURISTS IN BERLIN, reports bulletin of Chilean Commission on Intellectual Cooperation. Group of civilians, invited by Germany, participates at presentation of Carlos Ossandon's picture "Children", to Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut (Ibero-American Institute).

CHILEAN NITRATE PLAN, involving 295,000,000 peso state corporation, is presented. Aim of its Socialist sponsors is to authorize operation of government's remaining nitrate deposits. Modern mechanized refinery projected.

CHILE STARTS SPENDING \$17,000,000 Export-Import Bank credit. Almost \$3,000,000 goes for machinery, breeding cattle, electric railroad material, announces Chilean Development Minister Oscar Schnake.

NAZIS IN COLOMBIA SURPRISED by speed with which Pan American Airways took over facilities formerly operated by Germans, reports Russell B. Porter in "New York Times". On June 10th, after closing time, 38 Germans were dismissed and on morning of June 11th, U. S. and Colombian radio operators, mechanics and pilots took over, thus removing an important source of danger to Panama Canal, Aruba and Curaçao oil refineries.

50,000 MEXICAN RESERVES annually, to be called under compulsory military training bill, until 200,000 have been called, then tapering off. Men 18 to 45 are subject to service.

MEXICO'S SECRET SERVICE almost doubles, in anti-"subversive" campaign. Agents are sent to all ports and important frontier points on U. S. and Guatemala borders. Political groups are watched by squads equipped with portable radios to hunt secret broadcasters.

MEXICAN DISORDERS FEARED as Almazán partisans are secretive about plans. Authorities prepare for possible trouble in event two rival electoral colleges meet at Mexico City. Troops are in barracks, on call. Police are mobilized. Almazanistas claim that peasant concentration in capital violates recent order against political demonstrations; but pro-Avila Camacho group, undaunted, announces even greater massing of peasants on September 1, when presidential vote is to be confirmed.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 26

August 16, 1940

CHILE BUYS U. S. MILCH COWS, to create national dairy industry and safeguard health. Pedigreed cattle are bought through development corporation, by Government, to be sold on credit to owners of selected dairy herds.

COLOMBIAN COFFEE SUFFERS, due to loss of German market. Nazis emphasize huge U. S. coffee purchases from Brazil.

U. S. FUNDS HELP COLOMBIA NAZIS, writes Russell B. Porter. German firms representing U. S. exporters contribute to Nazi propaganda funds. U. S. advertising appropriations are spent on pro-German magazines, newspapers and radio stations.

EQUADOR APPOINTS GALAPAGOS MISSION, Col. Francisco Urrutia, army staff chief, and Francisco Fernández, naval commander, sail with mission on two U. S. warships to inspect Galápagos Islands belonging to Ecuador. (Strategic position of islands places them in important relation to Panama Canal defense).

RIVAL MEXICAN VOTE-COUNTERS, convene in Mexico City, to establish two congresses which, in turn, will proclaim two Presidents, unless compromise candidate is agreed upon. Many pro-Avila Camacho congressmen choose sleeping inside legislative buildings. Almazán partisans fail to appear in organized force; hence, pro-Avila Camachistas are compelled to remain idle, says Arnaldo Cortesi, in "New York Times."

MEXICANS HURT IN POLITICAL ROWS, as truck bearing farmers to capital passes citizens shouting "Viva Almazán". One woman and a 15-year old boy are among those injured by pistol shooting. 27 special trains are bringing 60,000 pro-Avila Camacho peasants to avert seizure of Congress halls by Almazán partisans.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 27

August 17, 1940

BRITAIN AND CANADA CONSULTED ON DEFENSE of Western Hemisphere. Roosevelt negotiates with Britain for Caribbean bases to increase Panama Canal safeguards. Also plans meeting with Canadian Premier King to strengthen mutual defense.

NELSON ROCKEFELLER APPOINTED COORDINATOR of Latin American commercial and cultural relations for Council of National Defense and Chairman of Interdepartmental Committee on inter-American affairs.

PERMANENT AMERICAS FAIR, urged by Dominican Consul General Espaillat at New York's World Fair. European "isms" should be kept out of New World by hemisphere self-sufficiency of ideals and interests, says Latin official.

REPRESENTATIVE COSTELLO WARNS ON S. A., in speech at Cosmopolitan Club lunch at Washington. Not direct attack on this country, but conquest of South America piecemeal by Nazis, is his fear.

ARGENTINA INCREASES AUTOMOBILES used, due to steady growth of highway network. (Last year, 405,900 motor vehicles were in use. This puts Argentina in tenth place in world -- one to every 32 inhabitants). Gasoline taxes for first six months of 1939: 38,000,000 pesos. Same period, 1938: 34,000,000.

NAZIS WINNING COLOMBIA CONSERVATIVES, especially younger ones, writes Russell B. Porter. "El Siglo" conservative Bogotá paper, formerly supporting Santos government and hemisphere defense, now leans Nazi-ward. Many people openly express fear of offending Germans, believing Reich victory imminent, with U. S. unable to protect them. Nazis spend \$60,000 to \$70,000 monthly for propaganda, espionage and other activities. Colombians are hired to distribute propaganda. Pamphlets go to student, labor, employee groups, schools, clubs. Word-of-mouth propaganda is carried on in homes, restaurants and cabarets, among army officers and government employees.

CUBAN PROFESSOR SLAIN. Two students are held after assassination of Dr. Ramiro Valdés Dausa. It is not known whether political motives enter into this tragedy. (Dr. Valdés was prominent in overthrow of Machado).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 28

August 19, 1940

ROOSEVELT MEETS CANADIAN PREMIER to discuss defense problems, after reviewing maneuvers in northern New York. Agreement sets up Canadian-U. S. defense board.

TRINIDAD BELIEVED GOAL of negotiations with Britain. Danger of island's falling into unfriendly hands imperils protection of Panama Canal.

NEW CARIBBEAN BASES "ALMOST ESSENTIAL", says Admiral William D. Leahy. New developments in aircraft, he says, renders one defense point insufficient.

BARBADOS PAPER APPROVES LEASE of West Indies naval and air bases to U. S. "to ensure help for mother country."

NOT WESTERN HEMISPHERE SALESMAN, SAYS DUKE of Windsor, denying that his role would extend beyond Bahamas.

AMERICAS EXCHANGE STUDENTS under 1936 Buenos Aires convention, announces State Department. Four are to come from Chile; Panama and Costa Rica also chose fellows from panels submitted by U. S.; Venezuela selects a professor and a student.

LATIN ARMIES AT 12,000,000 potentially, writes Richard L. Stokes in Washington "Star". Two republics (Argentina and Chile) undertake rearmament program since European crisis. 18 Latin American governments spend average of 25 per cent of budgets on national defense.

U. S. MUST RUSH FORCES to Latin America at short notice, if needed, observes Constantine Brown, writing in Washington "Star". Revolutions to change present forms of government may come in October, he says, citing Chief of Staff Marshall's opinion.

PAN AMERICAN - GRACE AIRWAYS SHORTENS TIME to South American cities by one day, on Sept. 1. Frequency of trips will also be increased to provide daily service. (To Buenos Aires from U. S. will take only $3\frac{1}{2}$ days).

GERMANS TO SHIP TO S. A. BY AIR, in order to keep promises of deliveries and impress Latin America, say Rio reports. Lufthansa would carry merchandise to Natal, Brazil. Thence, Condor, its Brazilian subsidiary, would carry goods to other points.

ARGENTINE LAND FRAUD involves War, Finance and Justice ministries, writes Herbert M. Clark to "New York Herald Tribune." Deal for Palomar airfield yielded aggregate 1,000,000-peso turnover profit for various individuals named in Senate investigating committee's report. Political unrest is evident and may result in shake-ups. Coming at time of intensified fifth-column activities, this development presents dangers to the country.

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST - 2

ARGENTINE AGRICULTURE MINISTER WANTS INTER-AMERICAN trade to replace lost European markets but reserves right to deal with all nations. Cosme Massini Ezeurra, speaking at Argentine Rural Society, livestock show, praises Havana Conference.

BOLIVIAN TIN MAGNATE IN U. S. to discuss smelter. Voices agreement with Roosevelt on hemisphere defense needs and promises technical help.

BRAZIL PLANS EXPORT-IMPORT BANK to foster trade with other American republics. Bank is to take over functions which cannot be handled by Bank of Brazil.

BRAZILIAN MANIOC PRODUCERS hope to increase production and exports to U. S. U. S. imports \$20,000,000 worth a year, mostly from Java and Dominican Republic. Brazil could give much more than present 12,000 tons a year.

COLOMBIA POTENTIAL NAZI PRIZE, writes Russell B. Porter. Badly needed oil, gold, coffee and other foodstuffs could be supplied by this republic, besides excellent base for Canal attack. Germans possess planes, air pilots familiar with country and neighboring regions; also most complete set of aerial photographs of this country. Nazi party set-up, with women's auxiliary, "strength through joy" and other characteristic features, is maintained. Propaganda specialists, in number far beyond trade and usual diplomatic needs, work at German Legation.

9 U. S. DESTROYERS TO CUBA on "refresher" cruise. Some will also visit Haiti and Panama.

CUBAN IMPORTERS PROTEST MONOPOLY CLAUSE in new constitution. This provision gives government right to grant manufacturing privileges exclusively to one firm under certain circumstances, protecting such firm against domestic and foreign competition. (The purpose of the clause is to encourage new factories).

CUBAN LEFTISTS VS. SUGAR INTERESTS. Wide suffering from depression in sugar and other crops causes smoldering antagonism but respect for army's strength curbs unrest. Agriculture Minister Dr. Amadeo López Castro says in interview with Carlos J. Videla of North American Newspaper Alliance that Cuban communism is artificial.

PANAMA BARS PRO-NAZI COSTA RICANS. Action follows open letter published in San José by 25 German-educated Costa Ricans, expressing sympathy for Reich.

NEW PANAMA LOCKS, costing \$277,000,000 to be begun shortly, announces Bernard L. Burdick, Chief of Panama Canal office. New locks are to decrease Canal's vulnerability to bombing and sabotage.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 29

August 20, 1940

\$500,000,000 BILL SENT TO HOUSE by Rules Committee. Representative Wolcott of Michigan calls it "Step to Cartel." Representative Crawford of Michigan defends it as "a new Monroe Doctrine."

U. S.-CANADA DEAL MAY BE PRECEDENT for other inter-American mutual assistance pacts, reports Associated Press.

LONDON TIMES FAVORS BASES for U. S. in British West Indies, to help protect Panama Canal; also hails Canada-U. S. defense board.

FORMER NAZI AGENT IN BRAZIL leaves U. S. Friedrich Reid, German Consul who left Brazil due to fifth-column activities and came to U. S. now leaves this country. It is not known whether he will return to South America.

MEXICO DELAYS OIL REPORT because Attorney General decides some properties of expropriated companies are worthless. Government appraisers had been reported ready to submit figures.

MEXICANS HALT U. S. VESSEL, searching for General Juan Andreu Almazán, opposition candidate for the presidency in the last election. Freighter Herman Frasch is stopped off Mexico's west coast by Mexican gunboat, G-22. Simultaneously, it is reported that several army officers friendly to Almazán have been arrested.

CANAL ZONE FINES NAZI AGENT Emil Wolff \$2000 for failing to notify State Department he was acting as foreign agent. He was carrying coded messages for delivery in Latin America.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 30

August 21, 1940

\$500,000,000 BILL PROVOKES CLASHES. While defendants say that the bill is necessary to enable U. S. to continue financing exports to Latin American countries, opponents call it effort to "buy" friendship with other American republics. Jesse Jones writes letter to Chairman of House Banking and Currency Committee setting forth aims of bill.

COMMODITY EXCHANGE PLAN CONSIDERED. Loans from proposed \$500,000,000 fund: to promote program for surplus commodity disposal, discussed. Among products affected would be Argentine corn, Brazilian cotton and coffee, Chilean copper, Colombian coffee and Cuban sugar. Latin Americans welcome any aid but point out need for basic solutions.

MOTION PICTURE INTERESTS TO PROMOTE LATIN AMERICAN GOODWILL. Outstanding stars agree with producers on advisability of spending vacations in Latin America to improve friendly relations.

HOWARD DECLINED POST, President confirms. Roosevelt tells press correspondents Howard was the man mentioned in his presidential nomination acceptance speech as refusing to cooperate. Howard's letter of June 5 to the President pleaded "incompetency." He stressed the fact that he has not spent much time in South America for twenty years.

REFUGEE FUNDS AID BRAZILIAN FINANCE. Brazil's financial condition is helped by wealthy refugees from France, the Netherlands, Belgium and other conquered nations. Semi-official estimates place amount that will be brought in by end of year at \$25,000,000.

TROTSKY WOUNDED IN MEXICO by apparent household intimate, tentatively identified as Frank Jackson. (Trotsky narrowly escaped death May 24 last and home has since been veritable fortress).

MEXICO DEFENDS FREIGHTER HALTING. Foreign office says that the Herman Frasch was stopped only for few minutes and not searched. Foreign Minister Eduardo Hays informs U. S. chargé that ship was in Mexican waters and was allowed to proceed as soon as papers were found in order.

MEXICO EVALUATES SEIZED OIL PROPERTIES. Government places value of \$34,546,000 on properties, while company's experts set \$36,258,000 as price. Petroleum workers syndicate has claims against companies for discharge pay and similar items amounting to 117,000,000 pesos. (Peso equals \$.205 U. S., August 20, 1940).

U. S. NAVY JOINS URUGUAY'S CELEBRATION. 200 sailors and marines from cruisers Wichita and Quincy to form honor guard at Independence Monument on Uruguay's anniversary. Local reaction against Nazi and Fifth Column activities explain increased fervor for democratic principles.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 31

August 22, 1940

Note: This is a review of items published in the press.

\$500,000,000 BILL PASSES HOUSE. Vote of 183 to 144 on bill authorizing Export-Import bank loans passed. Purpose is to help "orderly marketing" of surplus Western Hemisphere commodities. Bill provides for loans to Governments, banking institutions and individuals.

CARIBBEAN PLANS ADVANCED to enable quick action in event of lease arrangements with Britain. Importance of securing protection of Panama Canal is seen as paramount. Existence of German refueling depots on remote Caribbean islands constitutes Canal menace.

FRENCH ENVOY TO S. A. SWITCHES allegiance from de Gaulle to Vichy, after having been brought to Rio on British warship. Charles Corbin, former French ambassador at London, confounds British and pro-de Gaulle French.

ARGENTINE CABINET CRISIS over land scandal continues. Sick President holds bedside conferences to discuss cabinet changes. Rightist General Molina is arrested after writing letter attacking War Minister Marquez. Buenos Aires police are ordered to their barracks.

BOLIVIA MAY RETURN OIL PROPERTIES to Standard and either abolish government oil body or reduce it to simple distributing agency.

BATA ESTABLISHES BRAZIL SHOE FACTORY near São Paulo, together with related industries. About 4,000 are employed in tannery, leather and textile mills, soap, oil and fat factories and packing plant. (Bata is requested to have factories in Chile and Haiti and 3,200 retail outlets in Latin America).

NAZIS SUBSIDIZE BRAZIL RADIO. \$1000 weekly is given to Radio Ipanema to take entire Trans-ocean news service.

CHILEAN SOCIALIST PROMOTES ARMAMENT idea, calling for 10,000,000,000 pesos instead of 1,000,000,000 pesos now planned. Manuel Eduardo Hubner wants government intervention in many industries, to coordinate defense production; also permanent national defense council.

NEW OIL BILL FOR CHILE is presented in Congress. This would grant private prospecting and drilling rights in districts not now explored by government in Magallanes territory. Foreigners would be ruled out as beneficiaries.

TROTSKY DIES IN MEXICO as result of wounds inflicted by Belgian assailant. He had been living in suburb of Mexico City as an exile.

VENEZUELA FACES OIL DIFFICULTIES. Tremendous rise in oil exports in past years has "killed initiative" in other enterprises, says local bank executive. Expropriation is being discussed but Venezuela's \$50,000,000 gold reserve would not cover payments to owners.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 32

August 23, 1940

Note: This is a review of items published in the press.

WATCH LATIN AMERICAN LOANS says "New York Times" editorial, calling attention to report of Foreign Bondholders Protective Council, showing 77 percent default on outstanding Latin American dollar bonds. Loans should be subjected to restrictions on purposes and volume, says the editorial.

ITALIAN PRESS ATTACKS U. S. LEASE OF BASES in British West Indies. Il Popolo di Roma and Il Resto del Carino (a paper of Bologna) accuse U. S. of seeking control over Latin America through gifts of guns, motors and other war material.

U. S. MEMBERS OF JOINT DEFENSE BOARD APPOINTED. President chooses six commissioners to work with Canadians on joint defense body: Mayor Fiorello A. LaGuardia, Lieut. General Stanley D. Embick, Capt. Harry W. Hill, Commander Forrest P. Sherman, Lieut. Col. Joseph T. McNarney, and John D. Hickerson.

COLOMBIAN CONSUL MINIMIZES FIFTH COLUMN in his country. A. Cruz Santos, Consul General at New York, feels that articles written by "New York Times" correspondent in Bogotá "gives an inaccurate impression." He points out that there are fewer than 50,000 foreigners among 9,000,000 Colombians and of these, many belong to friendly nations.

ARGENTINE PRESIDENT RESIGNS. Ortiz gives up presidency, declaring that Senate Committee's mention of cabinet ministers in connection with land scandal is slur on him. Vice-President Castillo may get post, though friends of Ortiz expect congressional confidence vote to keep him in office.

TROTSKY PRAISED IN MEXICO FUNERAL SERVICE. Twenty automobiles take group to cemetery for symbolic rites (non-religious ceremony). Several orators deliver eulogies of former Russian War Commissar, while Mexican police declare belief that "international master mind" was behind assassination.

OIL FOR NAZIS NEAR MEXICO coast. Cozumel Island, off Yucatán, has oil supplies, used by Nazi raiders and submarines, write Leicester Hemingway and Anthony Jenkinson, to North American Newspaper Alliance. Also, there is a radio station in charge of Oscar Coldwell, pro-Nazi ex-United Fruit radio operator. Convenient lagoons are at either end of island.

PUERTO RICAN LOAN PLACED with National City Bank. \$500,000 Puerto Rican Government bonds on bid of 100.14 at $2\frac{1}{2}$, announced by Secretary Ickes. Proceeds will be used to purchase Rio Blanco Hydroelectric Power Plant of Porto Rico Railway, Light and Power Company.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 33

August 24, 1940

Note: This is a review of items published in the press.

NAZI CARIBBEAN BASES BEING SOUGHT, says President Roosevelt. Inquiries have been ordered on basis of articles written by two North American Newspaper Alliance correspondents.

BRITISH BASES FOR DEBT CANCELLATION is one plan before President. Leasing of 18 bases for 99 years, from Newfoundland to Trinidad, is being considered for hemispheric defense.

ARGENTINE LEGISLATOR SHOOTS SELF in land scandal. Deputy Victor Guillot a suicide after failing to gain vindication from involvement in deal by which army paid five times real value for Palomar airfield. President's resignation, ascribed by newspapers to "oversensitiveness," is expected to be refused by vote of confidence.

ARGENTINE SWING TO FASCISM PREDICTED by Giornale d'Italia in despatch from Buenos Aires. Pro-Axis policy is foreseen under Acting President Castillo, with pro-Fascist Senator Sánchez Sorrendo heading foreign ministry.

U. S. - COSTA RICA MILITARY AGREEMENT reached by President Calderón with U. S. military mission, says Associated Press.

CUBA - U. S. ALLIANCE PROPOSED by Dr. Emilio Núñez Portuondo, Congressional Representative-elect. Latin American countries should follow U. S. whether neutral or belligerent, says congressman.

STANDARD OIL ATTACKS MEXICAN VALUATION of expropriated properties. Disavows "agent," who was reported as valuing property at \$36,208,000, saying he was chosen by Mexican Government. Calls seizure illegal regardless of valuation.

MEXICANS WATCH CLOSELY over slayer of Trotsky and over Brooklyn woman, Sylvia Ageloff, also being investigated.

URUGUAY NEGOTIATES WITH SPAIN for \$5,000,000 worth of artillery and anti-aircraft guns, on barter basis. (Efforts to obtain \$5,000,000 arms loan in U. S. met with failure).

URUGUAY REFUSES U. S. BASES but would grant base rights for Pan American use. U. S. believed averse to any such arrangement.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 34

August 26, 1940

Note: This is a review of items published in the press.

HULL APPEALS FOR HEMISPHERE DEFENSE BACKING, as six U. S. members of joint defense board leave for Ottawa meeting. Threat to our safety is real, warns Secretary.

ROOSEVELT MEETS CANADA-U. S. BOARD before they leave for Ottawa meeting. Then, board holds session and elects LaGuardia chairman.

U. S. FACILITATES BORDER CROSSINGS for temporary visitors from Canada, Newfoundland and Mexico. Beginning August 28, non-residents from those countries may come to U. S. for periods not exceeding 29 days.

NAZIS CONTROL U. S.-LEASED CARIBBEAN ISLES, aver Leicester Hemingway and Anthony Jenkinson, in North American Newspaper Alliance despatch. Retired German army officer, Bernhard Regnier, directs widespread activities from Corn Islands. Local commandant, Kruger, is pro-Nazi. Fuel oil is being stored for Nazi submarines and raiders by Nazi sympathizers. They feel certain that U. S. will do nothing until it's "too late."

BERMUDA AIRPLANE BASE FOR U. S. to facilitate hemispheric defense. Details still to be worked out but decision to cede rights is announced by Bermuda's governor.

LATIN AMERICANS TO SEE U. S. ARMY POSTS in October, on invitation of General Marshall. Chiefs of staffs of Latin American republics invited in effort to further hemispheric defense cooperation.

LATINS EAGER TO COOPERATE with U. S. reports Carlos Dávila, former Chilean Ambassador to U. S., after 8-month South American trip. Absence of continental plan, however, is discouraging. He advocates central commission to gather, digest and act on continental viewpoints.

RISE IN LATIN BUYING FORESEEN as result of \$500,000,000 loan, now believed imminent by exporters. Substitute outlets for European markets expected to increase calls for building and industrial machinery, drugs and other lines. Export advertising appropriations are increased.

ARGENTINE LAND SCANDAL can be used by Nazis as example of corruption of democracies, says Washington "Star" editorial, though Argentine President points out that dishonesty is not result of any particular political system.

ARGENTINE CONGRESS REJECTS ORTIZ RESIGNATION by 170-1. Only dissenter: Senator Sanchez Serrondo. Hundreds of citizens outside shout "Viva Ortiz." (President had resigned, feeling insulted because some of his appointees were mentioned in airfield purchase scandal).

(over)

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST - 2

BRAZIL-U. S. TRADE discussed at Rio business meeting. Merchants criticise U. S. exporters' methods and voice hope that Export-Import Bank funds can be used to facilitate long-term credits.

CHILEANS NEED U. S. SUPPORT against fifth column, writes Elizabeth Beresford in Washington "Star." Danger now evident to man in street, as press, radio and other Nazi activities are intensified.

REPORTS OF CHILEAN FIFTH COLUMN EXAGGERATED, states former commander of Chilean army, General Carlos Saez. Those who endeavor to undermine Chile's neutrality are fifth columnists, he says.

CHILE SEEKS U. S. INVESTORS. Bill before Congress would grant special privileges to industries approved by government. Exchange restrictions would be eased.

COSTA RICANS BOYCOTT GERMANS AND ITALIANS. Merchants of Axis nations are avoided after distribution of flyers signed by "The Democrats," urging public to buy only U. S. and British goods.

HUGH WILSON VISITS DOMINICAN REPUBLIC in effort to straighten out diplomatic log jam. Customs receivership arrangement is believed ready for change.

ECUADOR INVESTIGATES NAZIS. Radio, press, airplane and other German activities are being investigated by Senate. "El Telégrafo," Guayaquil newspaper, suggests equivalent of Dies Committee.

MEXICO HALTS SECOND U. S. VESSEL. Tanker, R. J. Hanna, is stopped by Mexican gunboat G-29. State Department investigates. Various versions of case are mixed; one says shot was fired.

MEXICAN FIFTH COLUMN UNDER CONTROL, Interior Secretary Ignacio García Téllez, assures Russell B. Porter. Tone of press and radio has altered recently, reports writer. Alien groups are carefully watched. German successes have opened peoples' eyes to peril.

PANAMA FINDS 1200 NAZIS, FASCISTS and others with passports of German-controlled countries, 900 of them living in Panama and Colón, near Canal termini. "Panama American" issues warning of potential danger to canal.

URUGUAYAN CROWDS DENOUNCE AXIS at Independence Day festivals. Civil organizations hold meetings reaffirming faith in democracy and repudiation of totalitarianism. Shouted insults at Fascism and Nazism are heard.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
For Administrative Use

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 35

August 27, 1940

Note: This is a review of items published in the press.

U. S.-CANADA DEFENSE SESSIONS begin at Ottawa. Preliminary organization of discussions follows official reception.

RIO PLATA REPUBLICS TO CONFER October 12. All southern nations of South America, except Chile, will attend, to discuss business and military cooperation.

ORTIZ TO REMAIN ARGENTINE PRESIDENT, after 170-1 rejection of resignation but may seek to reorganize cabinet. Rumor has it that former Foreign Minister Saavedra Lamas would enter government.

JAPANESE MISSION IN ARGENTINA. Six parliament members repay visit of Argentine mission which recently negotiated trade agreement in Tokyo. A spokesman said better acquaintance with Argentine officials and increased trade were goals.

CHILEAN NITRATE BAG PRICES INCREASED by Chilean Nitrate Sales Corporation. Affecting mainly farmers using nitrate as fertilizer, increase is due to higher bagging costs. Bulk price remains at \$27 a ton. Nitrate in 100-lb. bags will be \$29.50; in 200-lb. bags, \$28.80 a ton.

CHILEAN NITRATE PROMOTION PLANNED by Sociedad Nacional de Salitre. Increased credits, elimination of many middlemen, and increased quotas for nitrate are among aims of group which opposes present official Nitrate Sales Corporation.

HAITI POSTPONES ELECTION, thus giving rise to belief that President Vincent will remain in office indefinitely.

HITLER WOULD DOMINATE MEXICO in event of European victory. Economic control would come first, followed by political and military intervention should U. S. defend trade. So writes Russell B. Porter in "New York Times." Export-Import Bank loans will help U. S. keep trade during war but other steps will be required by post-war situation, he states.

DANIELS TO REPORT ON HANNA HALTING. U. S. Ambassador to Mexico is expected to report on stopping of U. S. oil tanker R. J. Hanna 75 miles north of Acapulco, Pacific port. (This is the second such incident in last few days. Reason attributed: Mexico's desire to stop importation of arms for uprising).

TWO ALMAZAN BACKERS QUIT MEXICO. Eduardo Neri and Antonio González, leaders of Almazán's chief political organization, leave for Texas. Observers believe they were eased out to forestall Almazanista coup.

NICARAGUAN CUSTOMS INSPECTOR at Bluefields is pro-Hitler German of native citizenship, write Leicester Hemingway and Anthony Jenkinson. Germans all along Caribbean coast engage in running fuel oil to island bases for use of Nazi submarines and raiders, writers claim.

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For Administrative Use

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 36

August 28, 1940

Note: This is a review of items published in the press.

JAPANESE PROMOTE LATIN AMERICAN TRADE. Permanent organization, established on recommendations of conference among Japanese diplomatic chiefs in Latin America, to expand trade through the medium of duty free areas. Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs to be Chairman. Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry, Commerce and Industry, and Finance, to participate. Expansion of trade, investments and facilities for financing, to be sought.

ROOSEVELT GREETES ORTIZ. In message to Argentine President, U. S. chief executive wishes for Ortiz's speedy recovery from illness.

ARGENTINE CABINET RESIGNS. After congressional confidence vote for President, Vice President Castillo, now acting president, is expected to reorganize cabinet in accordance with Ortiz's wishes. Police arrest 11 persons in pro- and anti-congressional demonstrations resulting from confidence vote.

COLOMBIA PAYS U. S. INVESTORS interest on \$61,000,000 bonds held in this country, this payment being the second in as many years.

CUBA WANTS U. S. LOAN. Congress is expected to pass bill for settlement of \$30,000,000 debt to U. S. now outstanding, despite much opposition. This may be prelude to negotiations for new loan.

NO CUBAN POLITICAL TRUCE, say observers. Ramón Grau San Martín, leading opposition candidate in last presidential elections, refuses offer of half of the posts in Batista's cabinet. Tension has increased since shooting of Prof. Ramiro Valdéz Daussa, member of Grau's party, by Havana University terrorists whom he had tried to curb.

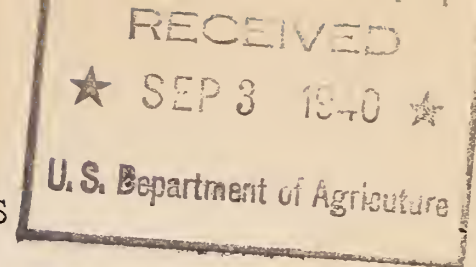
ALMAZAN IN U. S. Opposition candidate to Mexican presidency in July election arrives at Mobile and proceeds to undisclosed destination. Speculation is rife concerning outcome of disagreement between followers of two leading candidates over election results.

NAZIS ACTIVE IN MEXICO, writes Russell B. Porter, citing grave dangers to safety of U. S. and Panama Canal. "Scores, perhaps hundreds" have entered Mexico since war's outbreak. These include oil technicians, army, navy and air officers, communications and propaganda experts. Some enter on Japanese ships and get military information with help of Japanese "fishermen" operating on Pacific coast, says writer.

PERUVIAN "APRISTAS" NO LONGER ANTI-U. S. Victor Raúl Haya de la Torre, for years a foremost enemy of U. S. "imperialism," exhorts followers of his Alianza Popular Revolucionaria Americana to cooperate with U. S. against totalitarianism. Known as APRA, the organization has exiled members in every Latin American capital.

FEW ALIENS REGISTER IN PUERTO RICO. Less than 50 aliens report on first day of registration.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 37

August 29, 1940

Note: This is a review of items published in the press.

LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC INSTITUTE IN BOSTON planned by Dr. John F. Normano, economist in the Latin American field. Non-political and non-governmental and not to be connected with any university, the Institute would devote itself to economic research, both on immediate problems and long-range planning.

PAN AMERICAN MASS IN NEW YORK to be held under auspices of Peruvians there and the Pan American Society, organization of businessmen and professionals interested in Latin America. Observance will honor St. Rose of Lima, patron saint of Western Hemisphere, and is aimed at furthering inter-American amity.

CHILEAN CONSULAR SERVICE CHANGES to be instituted by President Pedro Aguirre Cerda, "to safeguard national interest." President proposes that University of Chile organize courses in economics and commerce for future consular employees.

PARTY FEUD IN CHILE imperils President Aguirre's economic program, says "Opinión," Leftist newspaper. Belligerent attitude of Rightists in trying to break up the Popular Front may provoke Leftists too far, writes journal.

ALMAZAN IN BALTIMORE. Has "no idea" whether he was elected President, saying that Mexico's Congress will soon announce results. Hopes to visit New York and Chicago before returning to Mexico. Conferences with high U. S. officials are possible, say Washington "Times-Herald" report.

SUGAR DIVIDEND IN PUERTO RICO, declared by South Puerto Rico Sugar Company. Besides regular 25 cents-a-share quarterly, directors vote 95 cents year-end extra. Last year the extra dividend was 25 cents a share.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 38

August 30, 1940

Note: This is a review of items published in the press.

WELLES OUR REPRESENTATIVE ON COLONIAL BOARD. Under Secretary is designated U. S. member of Emergency Committee for the Provisional Administration of European Colonies and Possessions in the Americas, established at Havana to act in any emergency that may arise before two-thirds of American nations have ratified convention on colonies. At that time, the committee is to be superseded by the Inter-American Commission for Territorial Administration.

LATIN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE proposed by Nicaraguan Consul General in San Francisco, to act as trade information center; also to promote sale of coffee and other Latin American products in the U. S.

ARGENTINE CABINET CHANGES being discussed by Acting President Castillo with Conservative and Socialist party leaders. Latter pledge aid to Castillo providing the government moves to end Nazi influences and increases economic and political cooperation with other American republics.

RIO-NEW YORK FLIGHT PLANNED by Darke de Mattos and Leigh Wade. First stretch to San Diego to take 6 days from Rio. Letters from President Vargas and other officials being carried to their U. S. opposite numbers.

BRAZILIAN MISSION VISITS SISTER NATIONS. Now in Central America, Brazilian trade mission of about 16 members is making rounds of other American republics. Purpose: to promote exchange of products.

BRAZIL WANTS STEEL PLANT, about 50 miles from Rio, to lessen dependence on foreign supplies. Commission, headed by Dr. Guilherme Guinlo, now in U. S., hopes Export-Import Bank will finance machinery and equipment. Failing this, Germany may help after war in return for economic concessions.

COLOMBIA AIDS COOPERATIVES through revolving fund at disposal of National Economy Ministry. Loans up to ten years made possible, individual operations being limited to 3,000 pesos. (Colombian peso equals \$.58 U. S., Aug. 29, 1940).

COSTA RICA CANCELS DIPLOMATIC FRANKING privilege, to curb propaganda. German Legation had been sending pictorial mail circular.

GUATEMALA TO SEE U. S. GOODS at national fair planned for November 17 - 24. One large building set aside for U. S. products.

MEXICO TO RECEIVE 250,000 SPANISH EXILES, now in France, regardless of political creed. Agreement involves payment of transportation and upkeep from today, by Mexico. U. S. help in transporting refugees is being sought. Other American countries which have given official assurances of welcoming exiles: Argentina, Chile, Dominican Republic. Unofficial assurances given by Colombia and Venezuela.

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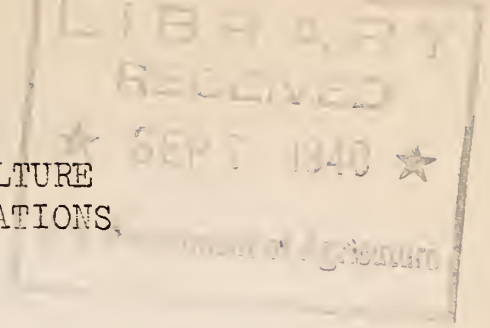
BLOODLESS NAZI TERROR IN MEXICO keeps Germans there hewing to party line. Economic and psychological pressure suffice to insure "cooperation" in furthering Hitler's program, reports Russell B. Porter. Even naturalized Mexicans come under sway of efficient organization. Spare time political and "physical" training, attendance at propaganda lectures and movies are compulsory. German advertisers form solid bloc to grant or withhold business, according to publishers' attitudes. Some editors, writers, and radio commentators receive subsidies. Some German houses represent U. S. firms and contribute part of profits to Nazi cause. To make good on deliveries promised to Mexicans, they buy goods in U. S. Transocean News Agency sends material from Berlin and New York, belittling U. S. and Britain as being "contaminated" by Jewish blood. The Humboldt Society and Mexican German Society sponsor lectures, movie and radio programs. The German Club gives "free courses" to university students.

MEXICANS INVITED TO COMPLAIN against government of President Cárdenas. Anyone not satisfied can send 20-word telegram without charge over government-owned service, says Associated Press.

PUERTO RICO SUFFERS from overpopulation (544 per square mile against 45 in U. S.), undernourishment and deficient sanitation, writes Carlos J. Videla in a North American newspaper alliance dispatch. Sugar is the main crop, one half of agricultural workers are now idle, due to glut in sugar market.

VENEZUELAN TANKER REPORTED LOST. Belívar, 2,651-ton oil tanker, given up after ships answering distress signal fail to locate her, says Router's dispatch from Rangoon.

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 39

August 31, 1940

Note: This is a review of items published in the press.

AXIS PROPAGANDA IN LATIN AMERICA is "not the result of an overheated imagination," writes Constantine Brown in the Washington "Star." Fifth column is active in political, economic and cultural fields. Libraries are stocked with free German and Italian books. Artistic Latin America is treated to propaganda in guise of art (famous artists are subsidized; free programs are offered to radio stations). Though lacking foreign exchange, Germans and Italians spend about 10 times more than rich U. S. In Brazil, Germans have offered \$60,000,000 worth of war material in exchange for coffee, cotton and other products.

NEW WORLD AMITY SECURE, says priest at Peruvian mass held in New York to honor St. Rose of Lima, patron saint of Western Hemisphere. Rev. John J. Hosey is certain that totalitarians cannot get foothold in American countries.

LATIN AMERICAN AGRICULTURE DIFFERS from that in U. S., points out correspondent in letter to "New York Times." Governments do not aid agriculture in same way as does ours, writes out C. A. McQueen. Latin Americans today face problem of selling raw materials at any price; Export-Import Bank loans, if made intelligently, should "soften crisis," he writes.

MEXICO NOT COMMUNIST, warns President Cárdenas, simply because government has been tolerant. Deploring Trotsky's death, he says that all Mexicans allying themselves with foreigners are traitors. Opposition leaders say this disavowal is insincere. Mexican Communist Party secretary states his group has no connection with Soviets. Legislation to outlaw the party is believed in the offing, reports Jack O'Brine in the "New York Herald Tribune."

MEXICO SEEKS U. S. AID FOR REFUGEES. After signing treaty with France to admit Spanish refugees, Mexico hopes U. S. will provide means of transportation.

MEXICO HOPES FOR OIL SALES to belligerents, in order to bolster declining exports of this product.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
For Administrative Use

Index to Latin American News Digest

August 1-15, 1940

Note: In each day's digest, items of general Latin American and Pan American interest appear first. These are followed by items dealing with specific countries and their relations with the United States. Each item from August 1-15, inclusive, is here listed under as many countries, products or other subjects as it touches. Items in the Havana conference are indexed separately for quick reference, rather than with other items concerning Inter-American Relations.

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OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
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SEP 14 1940
U. S. Department of Agriculture

Index to Latin American News Digest

August 16-31, 1940

Note: In each day's digest, items of general Latin American and Pan American interest appear first. These are followed by items dealing with specific countries and their relations with the United States. Each item from August 16-31, inclusive, is here listed under as many countries, products or other subjects as it touches. The items indexed are despatches published in the press.

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